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NEWS SERVICE

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DISTRIBUTION II

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ADD CARTER, HERSHEY, PA. (UP-032)

LOUISIANA GOV. EDWIN EDWARDS, WHO HAS ENDORSED CALIFORNIA GOV. EDMUND BROWN FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, DID NOT ATTEND THE BREAKFAST. BROWN IS NOT ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

GOV. MARVIN MANDEL OF MARYLAND, WHO SUPPORTED BROWN IN HIS STATE'S PRIMARY AGAINST CARTER, WAS SELECTED TO ANNOUNCE THE ENDORSEMENT.

"WE HAVE PUT ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES AND DIVISIONS IN THE INTERESTS OF UNITY AND STRENGTH," MANDEL SAID.

MANDEL SAID CARTER HAS NOT ONLY WON 19 PRIMARIES BUT HAS ALSO "CAPTURED THE IMAGINATION OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND HAS DEMONSTRATED HIS ABILITY TO HEAL THE DIVISIONS OF THE PAST."

CARTER SAID HE WAS GRATEFUL "FOR THIS EXPRESSION OF THEIR UNANIMOUS SUPPORT. MANY OF THEM DID NOT SUPPORT ME DURING THE PRIMARIES, BUT THAT IS A SYMBOL, I THINK, OF THE STRENGTH OF OUR PARTY, THE DIVERSITY OF IT."

LATER AT A NEWS CONFERENCE, CARTER PRAISED THE ISRAELI RAID INTO UGANDA TO FREE HIJACK VICTIMS AND SAID HE HAS RECEIVED HIS FIRST BRIEFING FROM THE CIA.

ASKED ABOUT THE ISRAELI RAID, CARTER SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN ABOUT IT.

"IT WAS VERY EXCITING TO SEE THE COURAGE AND SUCCESS," HE SAID. "OF COURSE, I REGRET THE DEATHS OF THOSE THAT WERE KILLED IN THAT ALTERCATION."

CARTER SAID HE MET WITH CIA DIRECTOR GEORGE BUSH AND SEVERAL AIDES HERE MONDAY NIGHT, BUT NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE WAS DISCUSSED. CARTER HAD ASKED PRESIDENT FORD FOR BRIEFINGS ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. HE SAID ONE OF HIS AIDES WOULD BE DESIGNATED TO MEET WITH CIA OFFICIALS IN THE FUTURE.

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